



Color, finishes add vivid detail to homes

PAGE D1

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Getting you ready

There's no recipe for the right Thanksgiving in Houston, but whether you go turkey or tamales, here is what you need to know.



Yi-Chin Lee / Staff photographer

Jonathan Bertuccelli builds a float Monday for the 70th annual H-E-B Thanksgiving Day Parade.



THANKSGIVING TRADITIONS

Houston's 70th annual H-E-B Thanksgiving Day Parade kicks off at 9 a.m. in downtown Houston.

UPTOWN LIGHTING IS UP AND RUNNING

The annual Uptown Christmas season kickoff took a construction break along Post Oak last year, but is back this year with 300 new trees, decked out for a weeks-long display. Festivities start Thanksgiving afternoon at 4 p.m., wrapping up by 7 p.m.

16,777,216: Color variations of the 300 20-foot tall trees along Post Oak Boulevard.



Steve Gonzales / Staff file photo

TRAFFIC WON'T TAKE A HOLIDAY

Airport travel increases have stolen the show with an anticipated 4.6 percent increase in fliers, but most people who travel 50 miles or more still usually head to grandma's in an automobile.

Highway travel is expected to rise 2.8 percent, leading to some headaches on the highway. On Wednesday evening, AAA Texas expects travel in Houston to be 3.4 times as bad as normal as people hit the road.

Some other hot spots:

- 3 p.m. Wednesday:** Worst time to be on the road prior to Thanksgiving, with 6 a.m. Thursday being the best travel time.
- 4 p.m. Friday:** Worst time to be on the road after Thanksgiving, with 6 a.m. Sunday being the best travel time.
- 6 p.m. Wednesday:** Peak time for visits to a liquor store
- 1 p.m. Friday:** Peak shopping crowds
- 6 p.m. Friday:** Peak time for movie theater crowds

Sources: Houston Mayor's Office of Special Events, Uptown Houston, U.S. Census Bureau, Google News Initiative, Under Armour, National Fire Protection Association, Instacart, Chronicle staff transportation writer Dug Begley

THANKSGIVING BY THE NUMBERS

- 339:** Population of Turkey, Texas, southeast of Amarillo, down three from 2018
- 165:** Minimum internal temperature, Fahrenheit, for turkey to be considered safe
- Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi:** States where residents are least likely to go vegetarian for Thanksgiving
- 68:** Percentage of people who admit secretly disliking a traditional Thanksgiving dish but eating it to fit in
- 835:** Electronics and appliance stores in the Houston area in 2016, down from 972 in 2012
- 1,600:** Estimated number of home cooking fires reported to local departments nationally on Thanksgiving, typically the peak day every year
- 143:** Total attendance of the first Thanksgiving, 53 English pilgrims and 90 Wampanoag Indians
- 22.8 million:** U.S. population in 2018 with English ancestry
- 6,500:** 2010 population considered members of the Wampanoag
- 10:** Percentage of people who report feeding their pets turkey or turkey-flavored food on Thanksgiving
- 17:** Percentage of people who said they have hosted Thanksgiving and regretted it
- 32:** Percentage of Millennials who said they were not interested in keeping Thanksgiving leftovers, compared to 18 percent of Baby Boomers
- 46:** Percentage of people who say canned cranberry sauce is "disgusting"
- 46:** Percentage of people who are wrong



File photo

Two court cases split for Trump

Ex-counsel must testify, but tax returns can stay secret

WIRE SERVICES

Two court rulings Monday cast a power struggle between House Democrats and President Donald Trump in even more stark contrast.

In one, a U.S. District Court judge decided former White House counsel Donald McGahn must testify before House impeachment investigators about Trump's efforts to obstruct the Mueller inquiry.

In the other, the Supreme Court temporarily blocked an appeals court ruling that required Trump's accounting firm to turn over financial records to House Oversight and Reform Committee while justices decide whether to take the case.

Both rulings carry the weight of broader consequences.

In rejecting the Trump administration's sweeping claim that top presidential advisers, as McGahn was, are absolutely immune from being compelled to talk about their official duties — meaning they do not even have to show up — Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson said even for those who worked on national security issues

Trump continues on A8

Man's murder conviction gets a second look

He could be freed during new probe of 2010 Montrose killing

By St. John Barned-Smith

STAFF WRITER

Alonzo Poe still remembers the call the night his brother was arrested nine years ago.

Houston police suspected the brother, Lydell Grant, then 35, of chasing down Aaron Scheerhoorn and fatally stabbing the 28-year-old man outside of Blur Bar, in the heart of Montrose, just before midnight one December night in 2010.

"Wanted for murder one?" Poe recalled. "That can't be right."

Poe professed his brother's innocence, but in 2012, a jury convicted Grant of capital murder, sentencing him to life in prison.

After seven years behind bars, however, Grant appears likely to leave prison this week. It could be as early as Tuesday now that prosecutors have agreed he should be allowed to be free on bail while his case is investigated in light of new evidence that suggests he is innocent of Scheerhoorn's murder.

Defense attorneys who reviewed Grant's case contend he was wrongfully convicted and argue police based their case on witness testi-

Murder continues on A7

From riotous reds to joyful yellows, fall foliage has a moment in the sun

'Goldilocks weather' gives area trees chance to put on a rare show

By Julie Garcia

STAFF WRITER

Houston's trees are showing off.

They're popping with sunshine yellows, luxurious reds and rare, breathtaking bright oranges. And their performance, which peaked last week, has been turning heads: While it's not totally atypical to see these colors in Southeast Texas, it is unusual to see so much.

When a leaf is about to die, there's a battle for which color will reign supreme in its final days.

As the days become shorter and the weather is that perfect

balance of wet, dry and chilly, that's when the clash begins. Chlorophyll in the leaves has a natural green pigmentation, which overpowers other parts of the leaf structure containing the yellows, oranges, reds and browns.

Autumn's decrease in sunlight is a key reason for the explosion of leaf color, said Ryan Bare, research associate with Houston Advanced Research Center who works with the Texas A&M Forest Service. Without the full sun, photosynthesis and other processes stall, causing chlorophyll to dissipate. This leaves the tree with less energy to stay green, giving the leaf's other colors time

to express themselves — even if it's only for a week or so.

"A lot of it is driven by temperature and the amount of daylight," Bare said. "If you get more sunlight in the fall, it's beneficial to fall color. So years with less overcast, you get better expression in the leaves. Depending on the composition or amount of pigments, that's what drives the color of the leaf. In general, one leaf could go through a transition of colors before falling off."

While Houston's September was its hottest on record, averaging 83.9 degrees, the last six weeks have been what meteorologist Matt Lanza calls "Goldilocks

Foliage continues on A7



Yi-Chin Lee / Staff photographer

Changing leaves pierce the morning fog on Imperial Boulevard in Sugar Land. The explosion of color has nature watchers agog.

Index

Business B1 | Directory A2 | Lottery C6 | Sports C1
 Comics D4 | Editorials A9 | Markets B3 | TV D3
 Crossword D3 | Horoscope D4 | Obituaries B6 | Weather B8

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CITY | STATE

All smiles for city's Thanksgiving parade



Artist Charles Conner II puts primer onto the Toy Drive float Monday at the city of Houston Public Works and Engineering Warehouse before patching the details to get ready for the 70th annual H-E-B Thanksgiving Day Parade. The parade will begin at 9 a.m. Thursday in downtown.

Yi-Chin Lee / Staff photographer

RHODES

From page A3

ors. The scholarship goes to 32 high-achieving undergraduates each year who display an aptitude and ambition for tackling the world's greatest societal challenges.

Wang becomes the third Houstonian to receive the honor in the past seven years, joining Bellaire alumnus Anand Habib (2012) and St. John's School graduate Harold Xavier Gonzalez (2017).

The 21-year-old learned she and Lauren Spohn, a College Station native now at Harvard, received the Rhodes scholar recognition following interviews Saturday in Houston. A panel

there questioned 14 candidates from Texas and Oklahoma.

"I didn't think either (interview) went amazingly, but about 20 minutes after my second interview, they came out and said they'd chosen me," Wang said. "It felt a little crazy because I really didn't expect it. I really hadn't had any expectations going in."

For Wang, the first in her family to attend college, it's yet another award in a remarkable high school and college career. She graduated second in her class at Bellaire, with a 4.96 GPA and perfect scores on the ACT and the SAT math and SAT read-



Wang

ing exams.

At Yale, Wang majors in economics and conducts research centered on policies aimed at closing inequalities, such as tax and welfare reform. She also helps lead the university's human rights law clinic and volunteers to prepare tax returns for lower-income residents of New Haven, Conn., the home of Yale.

Wang credited her parents, who moved from China to the U.S., for providing her with an exceptional education and support.

"My parents worked incredibly hard and they've given up a lot in order to make sure I have access to resources and opportunities," Wang said. "My mom managed to always get us into some kind of neighborhood with

a decent school."

Wang becomes the first graduate of HISD's EMERGE initiative to be named a Rhodes scholar. The program, which started in 2010, provides extensive counseling and college-centric opportunities to hundreds of high-achieving students from lower-income backgrounds.

"She's that reminder that anything is possible," said Lisle Bull, an EMERGE senior manager. "We know our kids have the skills and are able to achieve anything, but when you see it manifested, it's powerful."

Bellaire Principal Michael McDonough said Wang showed an interest in political and social causes at a young age, displaying an uncommon sophistication for a high school student.

"We have some kids just driven by the grade, wanting to get the highest GPA possible, and that wasn't her," said McDonough, who worked with Wang during her junior and senior years. "I was always just impressed that she had such a clear sense of what was important and powerful in her life."

Wang plans to study comparative government at Oxford for two years, broadening her perspective on the various methods used to provide more opportunities to citizens from all backgrounds. She ultimately hopes to conduct research that can help guide public policy decisions, particularly around labor and economics.

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

New Alternative to Adult Diapers and Catheters Sets Men Free

'Super-comfortable,' offers 24 hour leak-free security, available to many at little to no out-of-pocket cost!

If you're one of the four million American men who secretly wear adult diapers, or use a catheter to deal with your urinary incontinence or weak bladder, here's some lifechanging news.

There's a new non-catheter alternative available that not only helps keep men dry and leak-free for up to 24 consecutive hours, but the best part is, if you're covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TriCare, and some select insurance plans, you can try this high-tech 'fluid collection' breakthrough at little to no out-of-pocket cost.



"The most degrading thing that my husband can think of is being in a diaper," says Tina J. "Men's Liberty to the rescue. We attended our granddaughter's graduation in comfort and without the fear. You couldn't tell he had it on, which was a big concern for him."

Invisible Under Clothing

Men's Liberty is made of a gentle, skinfriendly material called hydrocolloid, a medicalgrade adhesive that softly stretches and moves with a man as he changes position.

Unlike absorbents that cause diaper rash, yeast infections, and dermatitis, Men's Liberty attaches to the tip of a man's anatomy, directing his

flow to a discreet collection pouch.

It's comfortable, unnoticeable to others, and secure.

It's this trusted sense of security that assistant registered nurse and caregiver, Mark Nagle, NAR, calls, "wonderful."

Doctor-Recommended

"It doesn't cause skin irritation, and my patients never have to worry about red spots or sores. My patient doesn't wear disposable briefs anymore, and I am happy to report that we always have a dry bed and a dry pair of pants." For John C., Men's Liberty is a "lifesaver."

Carefree Comfort

For years, John dealt with urinary incontinence by wearing an indwelling catheter.

When he discovered Men's Liberty, his life changed. "It's allowed me to maintain my lifestyle with my work and my family."

Death of Diapers?

Will this urinary break-through sink the \$7 billion adult diaper industry?

Many experts think so. Because adult diapers are not covered by Medicare, the estimated four million men who use them daily pay as much as \$300 a month in out of pocket costs.

Tucson resident, Sam T., wore them for years. "I remember the continued moisture in my crotch would give me a yeast infection, not a good thing," he says.

Sam wore four or five absorbents during the day, and two or three at night. "All of that went



The \$7B adult diaper industry is facing a catastrophic drop in revenue thanks to a revolutionary development in men's urological care.

away when I found Men's Liberty," he smiles.

Enjoy Life Again

"I can wear Men's Liberty for 24 hours with minimal interruption," says Sam, "even after drinking coffee!"

"Movies, meetings and social affairs are all possible now. Our granddaughter graduated with honors from high school last week," says the beaming grandfather. "I sat beside my wife, applauding!"

During the sizzling hot Arizona summers, you'll always find Sam in a pair of cargo shorts.

"I buy my shorts with an 11-inch inseam, which is perfect for Men's Liberty," he says.

Discreet and Unnoticed

"The drain nozzle is hidden right above the hemline. So, I can stand at the urinal, like other guys, and discreetly drain the pouch, and no one notices a thing. In ten seconds, I'm good to go!"

Managing urinary incontinence in a medical

setting can be challenging.

Urinary tract infections (UTIs) are frequently caused by catheter use. If untreated, UTIs can cause a secondary infection, often resulting in hospitalization.

That's why Men's Liberty is recommended by leading healthcare professionals.

Doctor's Choice

Urologist Alden Cockburn, MD, has personally tried Men's Liberty and now recommends it to his patients.

"I tried it myself during one of the testing phases and it's very comfortable; certainly, more comfortable than the alternatives," he says.

"It allows men to have freedom of movement."

"I think Liberty is a good name because it does afford men the liberty of a lifestyle that was not afforded to them before."

When you feel in control of your sense of well-being," adds Dr. Cockburn, "you feel more able to accomplish tasks that you previously wanted to bypass."

"The feeling of not wanting to associate with others because you fear loss of control, or fear what others might think of you, goes away."

"I think that Liberty is well named in that it liberates the individual to a sense of being able to perform normal tasks in a normal way."

A Grand Experiment

Curious Sam T. in Tucson wanted to see how much liquid Men's Liberty would hold.

"I can't claim to be an expert research analyst," laughs Sam, "but here is what I learned."

Sam first filled a fresh Liberty unit with water and learned that it securely held one full cup. On the top of his shelf, Sam found a few pairs of disposable briefs with built-in absorbent pads.

To his surprise, these held a whopping two cups of liquid, which may not be helpful, according to Sam.

"I saw an ad on the internet," says Sam, "that showed some guy wearing these briefs, walking around with a big smile on his face."

"I thought to myself, yeah... if I had two cups of urine sloshing around my crotch, I wouldn't be smiling, and I would sure be walking 'funny.'"

"Also," says Sam, "the slightest pressure on an absorbent will cause it to leak."

Men's Liberty doesn't leak and sure won't cause "funny" walking," he says.

Four Million Used!

More than 4 million Men's Liberty units have been used, with ZERO attributable UTIs or

serious skin injuries.

That comes as no surprise to the thousands of healthcare professionals who recommend Men's Liberty everyday.

Dr. Fernando Borges. "I recommend Men's Liberty to patients with urinary incontinence because of the low incidents of trauma, erosion, and infection."

Covered by Medicare

Men's Liberty is covered by Medicare, Medicaid, TriCare, and over 3,000 insurance plans. Compared to paying over \$300 a month for diapers, you could be getting Men's Liberty for little or no out-of-pocket cost!

The Men's Liberty Team will take care of contacting your doctor and all the paperwork for your insurance. No overwhelming insurance forms... it's that easy!



Long-haul truck drivers like Wayne J. rely on Men's Liberty between rest stops.

Free Week's Supply

Get your insurance card and call 1-800-484-4539 or visit www.StartMensLiberty.com to get started today. Get a Free Week's Supply with your first order! Just mention code HUC1111 to receive this special offer.

Start enjoying life again with a single phone call. With Men's Liberty, you are free to go... anytime, anywhere.